Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for controlling transmission energy of a communication station, comprising:

determining a characteristic of a propagation path between said communication station and a second communication station;

increasing ~~adjusting~~ said transmission energy of said communication station by a first amount in accordance with a power control step size corresponding to said characteristic of the propagation path;

~~receiving closed loop power control commands at said communication station; and~~

decreasing said ~~subsequently modifying said adjusted~~ transmission energy of said communications station ~~in accordance with said closed loop power control commands~~ from the first amount at a first predetermined rate for a period of time; and

decreasing said transmission energy at a second predetermined rate after said period of time.

2. (Currently Amended) An apparatus for controlling transmission energy of a communication station, comprising:

a receiver configured to receive a characteristic of a propagation path between said communication device and a second communication station ~~and to receive closed loop power control commands from the second communication station~~; and

a processor configured to ~~adjust~~ increase the transmission energy of said communication station by a first amount in accordance with a step size corresponding to said characteristic, decrease said transmission energy of said communication station from the first amount at a first predetermined rate for a period of time, and decrease said transmission energy at a second predetermined rate after said period of time ~~and to modify the adjusted transmission energy in accordance with said closed loop power control commands~~.

Claims 3-8. (Cancelled)

9. (New) An apparatus for controlling transmission energy of a communication station, comprising:

means for determining a characteristic of a propagation path between said communication station and a second communication station;

means for increasing said transmission energy of said communication station by a first amount in accordance with a power control step size corresponding to said characteristic of the propagation path;

means for decreasing said transmission energy of said communications station from the first amount at a first predetermined rate for a period of time; and

means for decreasing said transmission energy at a second predetermined rate after said period of time.